

OKLAHOMA WINGSPAN

Volume 1, Issue 3
May 2004



UPCOMING EVENTS

May

4-6	HLS Camp Gruber
6	Space Day 2004
14-16	OK008 FTX
22-23	Check Pilot Clinic

June

11-13	SAREX Tulsa
18-20	Aerospace America Will Rogers
19-26	Cadet Encampment Bacone College
20-27	Texas GSARSS

July

11-18	Cadet Leadership School
17-24	SWR Staff College

August

6-14	NFA - Bacone College MKO
13-14	SAREX MLC
19	National Aviation Day

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMANDER

Col. Virginia Keller

If you missed the annual Wing Conference you missed a good one. Have heard only good comments from the National Commander on down. The group in charge of putting the conference together, headed by Lt Brenda Miles and including the Starbase Squadron did a great job. A special thanks to all the cadets and seniors who created the models for centerpieces. Everyone wanted to touch, examine closely, and admire them, so I hope they survived, a little superglue probably came in handy when they got home. They were beautiful! Our seminars were great, only complaint, some needed more time. Before I forget, if there is something you would like to see done next year that

was missed this year, please put in your suggestion and if any squadron wants to volunteer to help host we'd like to hear that too.

May is going to be a really busy month not only in CAP but the cadets will be having lots of end of school activities, field trips, senior trips, proms and such. Please be extra careful, we need everyone around for the upcoming summer activities.

If you are headed off to National Cadet Special Activities either to fill a primary or alternate slot, or as an escort remember you are an ambassador for Oklahoma Wing, so make us proud.

*Virginia Keller Col CAP
Oklahoma Wing Commander*

CAP ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Several members from the Oklahoma Wing were recently announced as winners of 2004 CAP Academic Scholarships. We would like to congratulate the following:

From OK 001 - Bryce Herkert Lt Col Graduate \$1,000
From OK 002 - Michael Noel Cadet Undergraduate \$500

From OK 103 - Kelly Wardlaw Maj Graduate \$500
From OK 103 - Susannah Lyon Capt Graduate \$500
From OK 113 - Aaron Rabensburg Cadet - Technical \$250
From OK 149 - Patrick Patterson Cadet - Undergraduate \$250

CONGRATULATIONS

COMPANY INTRODUCES FREE CONNECTION TO AWOS

For those times when you need to dial up the weather somewhere and don't have the right Airport/Facility Directory at hand, anyAWOS provides access to any automated weather observation systems (AWOSs) in the continental United States via one toll-free number (877/ANY-AWOS; 877/269-2967).

Dial the number and key in the airport's three-letter identifier. (You'll listen to a brief advertisement while the connection is made.)

The company says it will continually update its database. If your airport has a publicly accessible AWOS but isn't included, send an e-mail or see the Web site for more information.



NATIONAL CONGRESS ON AVIATION & SPACE EDUCATION UPDATE

Provided by Melanie LeMay

Civil Air Patrol is retooling its 38-year-old National Congress on Aviation and Space Education and has rescheduled the next Congress for October 2006.

According to Judy Rice, CAP National Headquarters deputy director of aerospace education, the conference is changing to better respond to President George Bush's new emphasis on space exploration as well as the current demands for measurable results in education. "We're seeing increased interest in aerospace education," Rice said, "but the nature of that interest is different from what we saw during the Space Race era in the 1950s and 1960s. Our world is more sophisticated technologically, as are our students, and the National Congress is going to focus more on emerging technologies. We want to familiarize educators not only with the technologies themselves, but also with related career and vocational opportunities for their students."

At the same time, Rice said, educators are looking for ways to better measure student performance in response to such recent federal mandates as the No Child Left Behind Act. "Teachers can use aerospace activities to teach a variety of concepts," Rice said, "but they need tools to measure their results. Moving the next conference from April 2005 to October 2006 will give us time to incorporate more

measurement tools into the information and training we'll be providing."

For most of its 38-year history, the National Congress has been held during March or April. Rice said CAP is moving the conference to October because educators must now devote so much time to testing during the final months of each school year.

The 2006 conference will be held in Washington, D.C. Rice said work is already underway to evaluate every aspect of the event to be sure its offerings are aligned with current trends in the aerospace industry and education. "We're fortunate to have industry and education partners who understand the importance of aerospace education," Rice said. "Their input and support will be critical to the continued success of the National Congress."

"CAP as an organization is more than 60 years old," said Al Allenback, CAP executive director. "Throughout the years, our services have continuously evolved to meet the needs of a changing nation. This new direction for the National Congress is just one more example of CAP's flexibility and responsiveness. We're invested in America's future."

(Editor's note: The above is an excerpt from Press Release dated April 22, 2004. For more information see www.cap.gov)

WING-DING OF A WING CONFERENCE

If you did not attend the Oklahoma Wing Conference on 16-18 April at the Tulsa Southern Hills Marriott, you missed out on a really good time, several informative seminars, a very nice banquet and hearing the National Commander Major General Richard L. Bowling speak.

The theme for this year's conference was "Looking to the Next Century in the Air and on the Ground".

The following are some of the awards that were handed out:

SQUADRON OF THE YEAR 2003
OK-103 Stillwater Composite Squadron

SENIOR MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2003
Lt Col Joe R. Smith

WING STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR 2003
Lt Col Bryce M. Herkert

SQUADRON COMMANDER OF THE YEAR
2003 - Maj Mark Weiser

2003 CADET OF THE YEAR
c/ LtCol Patrick J. Patterson

2003 CHAPLAIN OF THE YEAR
Lt Col Douglas C. Hall

**2003 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION
TO EMERGENCY SERVICES**
Maj Debora Davis-Spencer

**2003 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION
TO AEROSPACE EDUCATION**
Maj Kelly A. Wardlaw

**2003 DEPUTY COMMANDER FOR
CADETS OF THE YEAR**
Capt Susannah F. Lyon

**2003 PUBLIC AFFAIR OFFICER
OF THE YEAR**
Capt Kathryn A. Curtin

**2003 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION
TO THE COUNTERDRUG PROGRAM**
Maj Robert S. Greenwood

OKLAHOMA WING BREWER AWARD
SQUADRON - Stillwater Composite Squadron

OKLAHOMA WING BREWER AWARD
INDIVIDUAL - Maj Kelly Wardlaw

COLOR GUARD STATE CHAMPIONS
Claremore Composite Squadron and
Stillwater Composite Squadron

Members:

April Bartlett
Dan Butler
Carlos Henson
Dana Keller
Greg Keller

**2004 OKLAHOMA WING COLOR GUARD
COMPETITION ACADEMIC AWARD**
April Bartlett

**2004 OKLAHOMA WING COLOR GUARD
COMPETITION FLEET FOOT
WINNER - MALE**
Kyle Teter

**2004 OKLAHOMA WING COLOR GUARD
COMPETITION FLEET FOOT
WINNER - FEMALE**
Shylo Hastings

Members are encourage to plan now to attend this annual conference next year. For more information see other related articles.



THANK YOU FROM THE TULSA MARRIOTT SOUTHERN HILLS

2Lt Chris McMasters, PAO - Council Oak Senior Squadron

As the hotel contact at the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills and a proud member of the Council Oak Senior Squadron, I would like to thank all of you who participated in the Wing Conference on 16-18 April 2004. This conference was especially important to me since I was not only the hotel planner but also an attendee.

Since I am a "newbie" in CAP and this was my first Wing Conference, I wasn't sure what to expect. Those of you who could not attend missed a wonderful program of information not to mention the camaraderie.

There were many terrific breakout sessions including the Safety Briefing by Lt. Col. Joe Smith, Damage Assessment by Lt. Col. Paul Spencer, and John Powell's discussion of Joint Exercises and the DEA, to name a few.

Giving us the big picture was our National Commander, Maj. Gen. Richard L. Bowling. The main theme Gen. Bowling emphasized is that Civil Air Patrol is more and more becoming a leader in the technology of SAR/DR missions. There are many exciting opportunities on the horizon for CAP and technology will play an ever-expanding role.

I would be remiss if I were not to mention the work of 1Lt. Brenda Miles in planning the event. She did a wonderful job. Also thank you to 2Lt. David Durand, also of Council Oak Senior Squadron, for securing the registration desk.

Thank you, again, from the Tulsa Marriott Southern Hills. We will look forward to hosting more events with Civil Air Patrol in the future.



“Performing Missions for America”

WING CONFERENCE BANQUET DECORATIONS

Centerpieces at the Oklahoma Wing Conference were made at a joint squadron AEX Day set up by Lt Richard Sugarman between Flying Castle and Cleveland County Squadrons

They consisted of famous historical aircraft ...Wright Flyer, Winnie May, Bell X-1, F-4, F-16. Models were discounted by "The Hobby Shop" at Crossroads Mall that also

provided a space for CAP recruiting material due to the contact.

What a neat way to have fun, incorporate Aerospace Education, and share your talents with other members!



CADET AWARDED MITCHELL AT CONFERENCE IN TULSA

Lt. Colonel Ida Berchtold, CAP

On Saturday, April 17, 2004, Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Dallas C. Herndon of Lawton, Oklahoma, received the General Billy Mitchell Award at the 2004 Oklahoma Wing Civil Air Patrol Conference being held in Tulsa Oklahoma. What makes this award presentation unique is that Cadet Herndon joins his father, grandfather and great-grandparents as officers in the organization in the presence of his entire chain-of-command, all the way from his squadron Deputy Commander for Cadets to Civil Air Patrol's National Commander.

Cadet Herndon is the son of Army Chaplain (Captain) Barton and Amy Herndon of Lawton. Both serve as Captains in Civil Air Patrol. Dallas's grandfather is Tommie Herndon of Little Rock, Arkansas, a retired Air Force colonel and a Colonel in Civil Air Patrol. He is a former commander of the Southwest Region of CAP, covering six states including Oklahoma and Arkansas. He now serves the CAP as its National Rapid Response Coordinator. Dallas's paternal great grandparents are Lt. Colonel David "Boots" Herndon and Lieutenant Flossie Herndon, both charter members of Civil Air Patrol in Arkansas Wing.

To earn the General Billy Mitchell Award, a Cadet had to pass eight multiple choice tests on leadership topics, seven multiple choice tests on various aerospace topics, pass an increasingly more challenging set of physical fitness tests, participate in moral leadership discussions and squadron activities, write an essay and deliver a speech on a leadership topic to the squadron, attend a week-long encampment, and finally pass a 100 question comprehensive test over all of the first eight achievements in the Cadet program. Since the inception of the award, approximately 52,000 cadets have earned it nationwide.

Dallas's grandfather and parents were present for the ceremony. Also in attendance were his squadron Deputy Commander for Cadets (Captain Steven Kuntz, Lawton), Squadron Commander (Lt. Colonel Ida Berchtold, Lawton), his Group Commander (Lt. Colonel Philip Berchtold, Lawton), the Oklahoma Wing Commander (Colonel Virginia Keller, Maramec), the current Southwest Region Commander (Colonel Tom Todd, Texas), the National Vice Commander (Brigadeer General Dwight Wheelless, Alabama), and the National Commander (Major General Richard Boling, Alabama).

Dallas becomes the most recent in a long line of Mitchell Award winners from the Lawton squadron, and one of its youngest. He is a 7th grader at Lawton Christian School. He consistently maintains a 4.0 or better grade average. He has nearly completed the emergency services qualifications for Ground Team Member, Urban Direction Finding Team Member and Mission Radio Operator. He has been nominated as the Comanche Eagles Outstanding Cadet and Outstanding Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer. He has earned an encampment ribbon, a recruiting ribbon, and the right to wear either the gold shoulder cord for academic excellence or the red shoulder cord which denotes the primary representative to the Cadet Advisory Council (CAC). The CAC meets periodically and advises the Wing Commander on matters affecting the cadets of the wing. He also has participated in the Cadet Orientation Ride program, having flown multiple times in a corporate aircraft with specially certified and experienced CAP pilots. Dallas has plans to attend West Point after graduation from high school.

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AEROSPACE EDUCATION FOUNDATION GRANT

The Aerospace Education Foundation provides grants to Civil Air Patrol squadrons to support their educational objectives. Grants are awarded twice each year - Winter and Summer. Only those units participating in the AEX program are eligible to apply for the Winter Competition. Any unit may participate in the summer competition. The application deadline for the summer competition is June 30th.

"The Requirements and Selection Criteria for the Aerospace Education Foundation Grants for the Civil Air Patrol are as follows:

- * Units are eligible to receive one grant every other year.
- * Grants cannot exceed \$250.00 per request.
- * Grants must be used for aerospace education-related items/activities such as books, videotapes, aerospace-oriented field trips, and aerospace education days.
- * Grants may NOT be used for uniforms, honor guard, or color guard activities nor may they be used for individual member flying instruction.
- * Grant recipients must file a follow-up report with HQ CAP/ETA on how the AEF grant contributed to their AE program."

Applications are available on the National Website, under Aerospace Education. Please remember that units can only receive a grant once every other year. In addition to Civil Air Patrol Grants, the Aerospace Education Foundation provides grants to educators. Information on these grants is also available on the site. (Information from the National Civil Air Patrol Website, Aerospace Education.)



“CAP - THE CIVILIAN VERSION OF THE PREDATOR!”

The OKLAHOMA WINGSPAN is the official newsletter of the Oklahoma Wing of Civil Air Patrol and is published by Public Affairs Officer Capt. Kathy Curtin.

Deadline for submission of articles is 25th of each month and newsletters will be distributed at the monthly Wing Staff Meeting. Items will be approved by the Wing Commander and printed according to importance, timeliness, and available space. Articles submitted are printed “As-Is” and the Public Affairs Officer assumes no responsibility for correctness, punctuation, and grammar. Comments or articles can be submitted to the attention of OK WINGSPAN at OkHorseFly@aol.com.

